



County of San Diego

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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS DIVISION

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TO: HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONERS AND INTERESTED PARTIES

FROM: HAZARDOUS MATERIALS DIVISION

MEDICAL WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The State of California Medical Waste Management Act of 1990 created laws that regulate the identification, storage, transportation, and disposal of medical waste. Persons that generate medical waste are required to develop a **Medical Waste Management Plan** on specified forms developed by the local enforcement agency. Once completed, the Plan will describe the types and amount of medical waste generated at a specific location, and how the waste will be disposed. [Authority cited California Health and Safety Code Section 117600 et seq.]

Attached is a "blank" Medical Waste Management Plan form for your use. We have also included the definition of medical wastes, and a "filled-out sample Plan" for your review.

Please complete the form in a timely manner; retain a signed copy for your records; and mail the original form to the address listed above. Be advised that the San Diego County Ordinance, Section 68.1206, requires a medical waste generator to complete the Plan on an annual basis, or when the information changes, whichever occurs first.

If you have any questions, please contact the San Diego County Hazardous Materials Division at (619) 338-2222.

JM:kf

Attachment

DATE _____ / _____



OFFICE USE ONLY

H _____

MEDICAL WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Business Name: _____ Type of Business/Practice: _____

Site Address: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Contact Person: _____ Title: _____

24 Hour Emergency Phone: () _____

GENERATION AND STORAGE OF BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE:

Describe below the type and quantity of biohazardous waste generated and managed at this facility. **SEE SAMPLE PLAN AND ATTACHMENT FOR DEFINITION OF TERMS USED IN THIS PLAN**

MEDICAL WASTE TYPE	QUANTITY (lbs/month)	STORAGE (container type)	TREATMENT METHOD	ON- SITE	OFF- SITE	HAULER NAME*
BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE Sharp Waste Needles/syringes/slides						
Non-sharp Waste Articles containing Fluid Blood (gauze, bandages, tubing, etc.)						
Solids (cultures, lab waste, etc.)						
Liquids (urine, etc.)						
Trace chemotherapy waste						
Contaminated animal carcasses						
Other						
MEDICAL SOLID WASTE Gloves, empty specimen containers, gauze with dry blood, treated biohazardous waste	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	

* If applicable, attach a copy of biohazardous waste hauler contract or Limited Quantity Hauler exemption.

Biohazardous WASTE STORAGE LOCATION: [Please check the appropriate box(es)].

Biohazardous Waste: ☐ Inside establishment in secured area ☐ Outside in posted, secure area

Medical Solid Waste: ☐ Inside establishment ☐ Outside in Locked/secured dumpster

PERSONNEL TRAINING:

All personnel handling biohazardous waste have been trained in all aspects of this management plan. Training includes the legal definition of biohazardous waste, separation and proper storage, transportation, treatment, and disposal of biohazardous waste. Documentation for completed employee training will be kept onsite.

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT:

I certify that the above management plan is complete and accurate, and that this business will adhere to all aspects of the plan. I further understand that any violation of this plan or any applicable law or regulation may result in legal action.

SIGNATURE OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON

TITLE

NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON (please print or type)

DATE

DISTRIBUTION: WHITE - RETURN TO HMD
YELLOW – BUSINESS RETAINS

SAMPLE

MEDICAL WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

SAMPLE

GENERATION AND STORAGE OF BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE:

Describe below the type and quantity of biohazardous waste generated and managed at this facility.

a							b	c	d		e
MEDICAL WASTE TYPE	QUANTITY (lbs/month)	STORAGE (container type)	TREATMENT METHOD	ON- SITE	OFF- SITE	HAULER NAME*					
BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE Sharp Waste Needles/syringes/slides	5	Sharps Container	Autoclaving	Ö		N/A					
Non-sharp Waste Articles containing Fluid Blood (gauze, bandages, tubing, etc.)	2	Biohazard Bag	Autoclaving	Ö		N/A					
Solids (cultures, lab waste, etc.)	20	Biohazard Bag	Autoclaving		Ö	XYZ Hauler					
Liquids (urine, etc.)	10	Glass Flask	Sewer	Ö		N/A					
Trace chemotherapy waste	15	Biohazard Bag	Incineration		Ö	XYZ Hauler					
Contaminated animal carcasses	20	Biohazard Bag	Incineration		Ö	XYZ Hauler					
Other	15	Biohazard Bag	Autoclaving		Ö	XYZ Hauler					
MEDICAL SOLID WASTE Gloves, empty specimen containers, gauze with dry blood, treated biohazardous waste	N/A	Regular Trash Bags	N/A	N/A	N/A	ABC Sanitation					

* If applicable, attach a copy of biohazardous waste hauler contract or Limited Quantity Hauler exemption.

Biohazardous WASTE STORAGE LOCATION: [Please check the appropriate box(es)].

Biohazardous Waste: ☒ Inside establishment in secured area ☐ Outside in posted, secure areaMedical Solid Waste: ☐ Inside establishment ☒ Outside in Locked/secured dumpster

- a. **QUANTITY:** Estimate the amount in pounds/month of waste generated at the facility. For types of waste **not** generated at your establishment indicate N/A in the quantity column.
- b. **STORAGE:** Indicate storage container used for waste. Biohazardous waste must be stored in approved containers (i.e. red biohazard bags or sharps containers).
- c. **TREATMENT:** Prior to disposal, biohazardous waste must be treated by a method approved by the California Department of Health Services (DOHS). For the most current Methods/Technologies approved by DOHS, call (916) 327-6904.
- d. **ONSITE/OFFSITE:** Indicate if waste is treated onsite at your facility or treated offsite at a permitted facility.
If you generate more than 200 pounds/month of biohazardous waste and treat onsite (excluding sewerage of medical liquids), you are required to obtain a Medical Waste Treatment Permit. Contact the San Diego County Hazardous Materials Division (HMD) at (619) 338-2222 for information.
- e. **HAULER NAME:** Untreated biohazardous waste must be transported by either a waste hauler registered with the State of California or by a person with an approved limited-quantity hauler exemption granted by HMD. If a registered hauler is used, attach a copy of the hauler contract with this Medical Waste Management Plan.

Department of Environmental Health, Hazardous Materials Division, P.O. Box 129261, San Diego, CA 92112-9261

MEDICAL WASTE – DEFINITION OF TERMS
HEALTH & SAFETY CODE, PART 14; COUNTY ORDINANCE #7646

MEDICAL WASTE means any waste that has been generated during the diagnosis, treatment or immunization of human beings or animals, in research pertaining thereto, in the production or testing of biologicals, or which may contain infectious agents and may pose a substantial threat to health. Medical waste does not include hazardous waste (as defined in California Health and Safety Code, Section 25117 and California Code of Regulations Title 22, Articles 9 or 11) or radioactive waste (as defined in California Health and Safety Code Section 25850(e)).

BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE means any of the following:

- a. Laboratory waste, including but not limited to, all of the following:
 - (1) Human or animal specimen cultures from medical and pathological laboratories.
 - (2) Cultures and stocks of infectious agents from research and industrial laboratories.
 - (3) Wastes from the production of bacteria, viruses, or the use of spores, discarded live and attenuated vaccines, including only Brucellosis, Contagious Ecthyma, and other animal vaccines, as identified by the department, and culture dishes and devices used to transfer, inoculate, and mix cultures or material which may contain infectious agents and may pose a substantial threat to health. All non-sterilized cultures shall be presumed to be medical waste.
- b. Recognizable fluid blood elements and regulated body fluids, and containers and articles contaminated with blood elements or regulated body fluids that readily separate from the solid portion of the waste under ambient temperature and pressure. Regulated body fluids are cerebrospinal fluid, synovial fluids, pleural fluid, peritoneal fluid, pericardial fluid, and amniotic fluid.
- c. Any specimens sent to a laboratory for microbiological analysis.
- d. Human surgery specimens or tissues removed surgically or by autopsy.
- e. Specimens or tissues preserved with formaldehyde or other fixatives, and waste contaminated with trace amounts of chemotherapeutic agents. Both of these wastes shall be disposed of through incineration. **(Bulk solid and/or liquid chemotherapeutic waste shall be presumed to be hazardous waste subject to hazardous waste disposal requirements.)**
- f. Waste containing discarded materials contaminated with excretion, exudate, or secretions from humans who are required to be isolated by the infection control staff, the attending physician and surgeon, the attending veterinarian, or the local health officer, to protect others from highly communicable diseases or isolated animals known to be infected with diseases which are highly communicable to humans.
- g. Waste, which at the point of transport from the generator's site, at the point of disposal, or thereafter, contains recognizable fluid blood, fluid blood products, containers, or equipment containing blood that is fluid or blood from animals known to be infected with diseases which are highly communicable to humans.

DEFINITION OF TERMS (Continued)

- h. Sharps, which are objects or devices having acute rigid corners, edges, or protuberances capable of cutting or piercing, including but not limited to, hypodermic needles, hypodermic needles with syringes, blades, slides, broken glass items, such as Pasteur pipettes, blood vials, and other broken glassware contaminated with biohazardous waste.
- i. Contaminated animal carcasses, body parts, excrement and bedding of animals including materials resulting from research, production of biologicals, or testing of pharmaceuticals which are suspected of being infected with a disease communicable to humans.
- j. Such other waste materials that result from the administration of medical care to a patient by health care providers and are found by the administering agency or the local Health Officer to pose a threat to human health or the environment. If there is a difference in opinion between the administering agency and the local Health Officer, the local Health Officer's view will prevail.

MEDICAL SOLID WASTE shall include but not be limited to, waste such as empty specimen containers, bandages or dressing containing non-liquid blood, surgical gloves, treated MEDICAL WASTE, and other materials which are not biohazardous.

SHARPS CONTAINERS are leakproof, rigid, puncture-resistant containers which when sealed cannot be reopened without great difficulty. These containers must be labeled with the words "Sharps Waste" or with the international Biohazard symbol and the word "BIOHAZARD." These containers must be labeled with the Generator's name, address, and phone number in a conspicuous location on the container when first used. Needles and syringes shall not be clipped prior to disposal. All sharps containers must be managed as BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE.

"BIOHAZARD BAG" means a disposable red bag which is impervious to moisture and has a strength sufficient to preclude ripping, tearing, or bursting under normal conditions of usage and handling of a waste-filled bag. A Biohazard bag shall be constructed of material of sufficient single thickness strength to pass the 165-gram dropped dart impact resistance test as prescribed by Standard D 1709-91 of the American Society for Testing and Materials and certified by the bag manufacturer. The bags shall be securely tied so as to prevent leakage or expulsion of solid or liquid wastes during future storage, handling, or transport. The bags shall be **RED** in color and conspicuously labeled with the international biohazard symbol and the "Biohazard." The bags shall be labeled with the Generator's name, address, and phone number in a conspicuous location on the bag when first used. If the waste is to be autoclaved, the outer bag may be colorless as long as the inner bag is red and both bags meet the stated strength criteria. All waste in biohazard bags must be managed as BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE.

BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE WARNING SIGN is: A sign posted at a designated accumulation area used to store biohazardous waste which must read in English, "CAUTION—BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE STORAGE AREA—UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS KEEP OUT" and in Spanish, "CUIDADO-ZONA DE RESIDUOS—BIOLOGICOS PELIGROSOS—PROHIBIDA LA ENTRADA A PERSONAS NO AUTORIZADAS" or in another language determined to be appropriate.